

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0480

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, EGEN, UK

SUBJ: 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF UNGA: UK BILATERALS

1. SUMMARY: UK CHARGE MURRAY DISCUSSED PREPARATIONS FOR THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION UNGA WITH AMB SCALI FEBRUARY 12. BRITISH ARE FOCUSING ON SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS, PARTICULARLY COMMODITY AGREEMENTS. AMB SCALI INFORMED BRITISH OF MISSION WORK ON ORGANIZATIONAL, PROCEDURAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS OF UN ECONOMIC SYSTEM. IT WAS AGREED THAT UK AND US MISSIONS SHOULD EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON A REGULAR BASIS RE PREPARATIONS FOR SPECIAL SESSION. END SUMMARY.

2. UK CHARGE MURRAY, ACCOMPANIED BY MR. THOMAS, CALLED ON AMB SCALI FEBRUARY 12 TO REVIEW UN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS. MURRAY SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT PM WILSON HAD DISCUSSED THIS MATTER, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE UPCOMING UNGA SPECIAL SESSION ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND UN ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTIONS, WITH PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY
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KISSINGER. ALTHOUGH THE UK MISSION DOES NOT YET HAVE THE

RECORD OF THOSE CONVERSATIONS, MURRAY WAS CERTAIN THAT WILSON WOULD HAVE INDICATED HIS STRONG HOPE THAT THE UPCOMING SPECIAL SESSION WILL NOT BE A REPEAT OF THE PROVOCATIVE AND CONFRONTATIONAL 6TH SPECIAL SESSION.

3. CHARGE MURRAY SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT IS PREPARING FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION IN A VARIETY OF WAYS. WHITEHALL HAS UNDERTAKEN AN ANALYSIS OF THE 6TH SPECIAL SESSION DECLARATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION WITH VIEW TO DETERMINING WHICH ELEMENTS MIGHT BE ISOLATED FOR FURTHER CONSTRUCTIVE MULTILATERAL CONSULTATIONS. HE SAID THAT OTHER PARTS OF HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE DRAWN INTO THIS EXERCISE. THE HOPE IS THAT THIS ANALYSIS WILL YIELD SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES ON WHICH HMG CAN DEVELOP A FORTHCOMING POLICY. THE ISSUE OR ISSUES WOULD THEN BE UTILIZED AS A BARGAINING CHIP WITH THE NON-ALIGNED/G-77. THEY WOULD HOPE TO INDUCE THE LESS RADICAL ELEMENTS OF THE G-77 TO RALLY AROUND THIS CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH AND TO FEND OFF THE ATTEMPTS OF THE RADICAL ORGANIZERS, SUCH AS ALGERIA AND YUGOSLAVIA, TO INVOLVE THE UN IN ANOTHER DESTRUCTIVE POLITICAL DIATRIBE.

4. THE BRITISH FORESEE USING THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED AFRICAN/ CARIBBEAN/PACIFIC (ACP)/EEC UNDERSTANDING ON CERTAIN COMMODITIES AS A BUILDING BLOC IN THEIR TACTIC. USUN UNDERSTANDS THAT THE "LIME DECLARATION", TO BE MADE PUBLIC AT THE END OF THIS MONTH, CONTAINS PROVISIONS ON SECURITY OF SUPPLY AND PRICE STABILIZATION. 46 DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, OR NEARLY HALF OF THE G-77, ARE INVOLVED. ADDITIONALLY THE EC-9 HAVE UNDERTAKEN A STUDY OF THE UPCOMING SPECIAL SESSION. EC-9 TACTICS WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE MAY MINISTERIAL SESSION. BEYOND PREPARATIONS WITHIN THE EEC, THE BRITS ALSO INTEND TO USE THE COMMONWEALTH. THERE IS TO BE A COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE COMMENCING APRIL 25 IN JAMAICA. APPARENTLY PM WILSON HAS DISCUSSED THE ISSUES OF COMMODITY AGREEMENTS AND INDEXATION WITH PM TRUDEAU AND PM MANLEY. DISCUSSIONS OF THESE ISSUES WILL CONTINUE AT THE COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE, AND THE BRITS HOPE TO PRODUCE SUPPORT AT THE CONFERENCE FOR A CONSTRUCTIVE AND UNVITUPERATIVE SPECIAL SESSION. MURRAY ENDED HIS PRESENTATION ON THE SPECIAL SESSION TACTICS BY SAYING THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WISHED TO REMAIN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE CONFIDENTIAL

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USG, AND WAS LOOKING TO THE US FOR LEADERSHIP.

5. MURRAY ASKED AMB SCALI FOR INFORMATION ON (1) THE REACTION TO AMB SCALI'S APPEARANCES BEFORE THE HOUSE SUB-COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS, (2) THE STATE OF US PREPARATIONS FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION. AMB SCALI RESPONDED THAT THE HILL APPEARANCE HAD BEEN VERY POSITIVE. THE MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE HAD UNANIMOUSLY EXPRESSED

SUPPORT FOR HIS DECEMBER 6TH SPEECH. THERE HAD BEEN CLEAR SENTIMENT BASICALLY FAVORABLE TO THE UN BUT EVIDENT IN QUESTIONS WHICH MIXED WITH ANXIETY RE ITS POLITICIZATION.

6. AMB SCALI EMPHASIZED THAT THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION WOULD BE A CRUCIAL TEST FOR PLANS TO LESSEN CONFRONTATION IN UN FORUMS AND THAT IT WOULD HAVE A GREAT INFLUENCE ON THE CONTINUED LEVEL OF US PARTICIPATION. UNLESS THE SESSION IS CONSTRUCTIVE, SUPPORT FOR THE UN WILL CONTINUE TO ERODE AND GIVE IMPETUS TO CONSIDERATION PARTICULARLY IN CONGRESS OF SELECTIVE USG WITHDRAWAL FROM CERTAIN ACTIVITIES AND PARTS OF THE UN SYSTEM. HE SAID THAT THE USG WAS VERY INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING A CONCERTED POSITION WITH INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES ON AT LEAST THE GENERAL OUTLINE OF TACTICS FOR THE SESSION. THE RADICAL STEAMROLLER COULD BE DETOURED ONLY THROUGH SUCH CONCERTED EFFORTS ON BOTH SUBSTANTIVE AND ORGANIZATIONAL EFFORTS. AMB SCALI WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE WILL BE CONSULTING WITH A WIDE SPECTRUM OF LDC REPS IN THE NEAR FUTURE IN ORDER TO HEAR THEM OUT AND TO ENCOURAGE THE MORE MODERATE AMONG THEM.

7. HE STRESSED THAT THE USG VIEW OF THE NEED FOR EARLY PREPARATION. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IS ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE. THE MISSION HAS A WORKING GROUP WHICH IS GIVING PRIORITY ATTENTION TO POSSIBLE REFORMS--ADMINISTRATIVE, ORGANIZATIONAL AND PROCEDURAL--THAT COULD MAKE THE UN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE MORE PRODUCTIVE AND MOST EFFECTIVE. WE PLAN TO COMPLETE A LARGE PART OF THE PREPARATORY WORK PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED JUNE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE MEETING. WE WILL LET IT BE KNOWN THAT THE JUNE MEETING WILL BE TREATED BY US AS A TEST OF THE INTENTION OF THE LDC COUNTRIES AND THEIR AVOWED WISH FOR A CONSTRUCTIVE SPECIAL SESSION. CONFIDENTIAL

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8. AMB SCALI SAID ALSO THAT WE INTENDED TO PARTICIPATE AT A HIGH-LEVEL AND CONSTRUCTIVELY IN THE WORK OF THE EXPERT GROUP ON UN ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTIONS ESTABLISHED BY GA RESOLUTION 3343 (XXIX). MURRAY REAFFIRMED UK INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN EXPERT GROUP.

9. THE CONVERSATION ON THE SPECIAL SESSION ENDED WITH AN AGREEMENT THAT THE TWO MISSIONS WOULD MEET ON A REGULAR BASIS AT THE WORKING LEVEL TO DISCUSS PREPARATIONS FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION.

10. COMMENT: THE BRITS (1) ARE CLEARLY LOOKING TO THE US FOR LEADERSHIP HERE, AND (2) APPEAR TO BE WELL AHEAD OF US IN PREPARATIONS FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION, ESPECIALLY

ON SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS. END COMMENT.

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